

From: Denis Dimick
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:59am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Under the Tunney Act, I wish to comment on the Microsoft settlement's inadequacy in improving the competitive environment in the software industry.

Mircosoft has proven in the past that it will only follow the settlement to the bare min. of what is required by law. Remember a few years back when we did this the first time? Remember all of the loop holes that allowed Mircosoft to continue the same aactivity? Well I do, I also remember that it was the DOJ that helped Microsoft draft that settlement.. As a voter, and someone who did vote for the current administation, I was not happy with the last settlement and I'm not very happy with this "settlement".

The court has found that Microsoft broke the law. It is your job to act on these findings in the best intrest of the American people. This "settlement" is not in the best intrest of the American people, it's in Microsoft's best intrest.

Since the events of Sept.11,2001 the current adminstration has had the support of the people. If you remember So did George Bush Sr. after the Gulf War, YET, He lost this support very quickly for makeing one mistake. This very well could be George Bush Jr.'s mistake.

A case for the break up:

Microsoft has spent over 3 billion dollars on Windows 2000, this product was over 5 years late, and shipped with over 65,000 known software defects.

Currently Microsoft sells all of it's office products tied into it's Windows O/S. If you want all of the features, you need to be running Windows.

If Microsoft was broken-up you would see the following, Microsoft would come out with it's own version of Linux. There is nothing stopping Microsoft from doing this today, other then trying to recover it's investment in Windows. Many people would stand in line for many hours, like we saw with Windows 95, to purchase a copy of Microsoft Linux.

This would be a new revenue stream for Microsoft with very little cost or investment. Since Linux is under the GPL, Microsoft would not be able to modify the source code in such a way as to cause the same problems we now are seeing.

Microsoft would be able to modify it's current applications to allow them to run under Linux. This would allow them to sell the same applications, at full price, to Linux users. In less then 10 years the two companies would be bigger then just the one, and the consumers would have a real choice.

So you now have two companies that are able to sell products and continue to compete.

AOL/Time Warner have just brought suit against Microsoft based on the current findings of the court. If the DOJ does not act properly on those finding and if AOL/Time Warner ends up being the one to get action based on thoses findings, how do you think thats going to look to the American people?

The DOJ has continued to "drop the ball" on many issues. We could blame this on many things, past adminstrations, poor leadership etc. However, If members of the DOJ really felt that things where going the wrong way, I think the DOJ would see many of it's staff leaving. Since the American people are not seeing this, One can only assume that the DOJ and it's staff dont see anything wrong with it's actions.

Maybe it's time change the way things are run at the DOJ? Maybe it's time to stop the "free-ride" George Bush Jr. has had.

The days of being able to slip one thru, are over with the Internet, news travels too fast. What worked back in the late 80's and early 90's no longer works. If you try to slip this one thru, it will backfire.

Thank you,

Denis Dimick
968 Alamo Road
Los Alamos, NM 87544

505-661-8650 - Home
505-667-8618 - Work